

CONVICT PRISONS (IRELAND) VISITORS.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 11 May 1886 ;—for,

COPY " of the Form of LETTER appointing VISITORS of CONVICT PRISONS in
Ireland, and containing Instructions as to their Duties."

Dublin Castle,
16 May 1886. }

R. G. C. HAMILTON

FORM of LETTER appointing Visitors of Convict Prisons in *Ireland*, and
containing Instructions as to their Duties.

Dublin Castle, March 188 .

I AM directed by the Lord Lieutenant to acquaint you that His Excellency
has appointed you to the office of Visitor to Her Majesty's Convict Prison at
for the twelve months ensuing from the 1st proximo.

The appointment of Visitors to Convict Prisons is an arrangement which the
Government have adopted, in order to give effect to a recommendation, in which
His Excellency entirely concurs, made by the Royal Commission on the
Penal Servitude Acts in the Report, a copy of which accompanies this letter,
and in paragraph 167 of the Report you will find set forth the general objects
which such visitation is intended to fulfil.

Your duty accordingly will be, from time to time, as you may find expedient,
to visit the prisons, and to make inquiry as to the state of the prisoners, and
discipline and condition of the prisons; but to abstain from giving any order,
or interfering with the administration of the prisons, which, by statute, is vested
exclusively in the General Prisons Board, subject to the control of the Lord
Lieutenant.

A book will be kept in the prisons, in which you will insert such remarks or
recommendations as you may desire to make; and whenever you consider it
preferable, you will address a report to the Lord Lieutenant, who will imme-
diately pay attention to it.

Your colleagues in the office, with respect to the
prison, are

And I have to request that you will, at your earliest convenience, confer with
them, in order to arrange such times and manner for the visitation of the prisons
as you may think fit, either together or separately.

The Royal Commission on Prisons in Ireland which recently reported attaches
great importance to the independent inspection of prisons, both convict and
local. The Commissioners think that the visits by the Visitors ought to be
frequent, and their inspections searching and thorough, and they suggest that
the Lord Lieutenant should, in future, require from the Visitors, once in every
year, a full report in writing, as to the condition and discipline of the prison to
which they are appointed. In this opinion His Excellency concurs; and
requests, therefore, that at the end of your term of office, you will furnish, in
conjunction with your colleagues, a report in accordance therewith.

The General Prison Board are desirous and will be ready in every way to co-operate with you, and the Governors and other officials will have instructions that every facility shall be provided, and every courtesy shown, and every effort will be given to all prisoners and all parts of the prison; and all hands will be open to your inspection at all reasonable hours.

I have to request you will be good enough to take this communication with you on the occasion of your first visit to the prison, in order to prevent the possibility of any misunderstanding person obtaining an entry into the prison by pretending to be a Visitor.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

CONVICT PRISONS (IRELAND) VISITORS.

COPY of the Form of Letters appointing
Visitors of Convict Prisons in Ireland, and
containing Instructions as to their Tenure.

(See Henry Richard.)

Ordered, by the House of Commons, to be Printed,
on 24th May 1836.

LONDON:
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PRINTERS TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

To be printed, this Liberty of Access to Prisons, from and
to all persons, is to be printed, this
House of Commons, is to be printed, this
House of Commons, is to be printed, this
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REVISED.